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SUPER HEROES FROM CLIVE BARKER

IN FINAL
BATTLE
WITH
ICE AUGUSTINE

Ectokid



OBI

SOULS MADE WHOLE

DIRECT EDITION

00811



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SKROCE
O
DVORAK

MEET DEX MUNGO, SOME-TIME THIEF, FULL-TIME STREET RAT, HALF-HUMAN, AND HALF-GHOST. ENTER HIS REALM, THE ECOSPHERE — A WONDROUS AND OFTEN DEADLY PLACE OF FANTASY, HORROR AND GRITTY ACTION, BETWEEN THE HERE AND THE HEREAFTER.



CLIVE BARKER PRESENTS...

Ectokid

SOMETHING'S GOT TO GIVE--

--SOMEONE'S GOT TO DIE.

Souls Made Whole

Created by Clive Barker

Story by Larry Wachowski

Inks by Bob Dvorak

Colors by Mike Thomas

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Chief Edits by Tim DeFazio

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WHAT ARE YOU
GOING TO DO
NOW, FREEMAN?
YOU CAN'T
STAY IN THERE
FOREVER!

YOU THINK
YOU'RE GOING
TO KILL ME?

NO ONE
CAN KILL
ME!

NO ONE—

HAH!

SOMETHING
IS HAPPENING

DEX IS IN ABOY—

HE'S HOLD BREATHING

MADDER-HOODLES OF SCOT-
FLANDER BEGIN GULPING
THROUGH THE PORES OF
ICE'S HAIR

HECK!
WHAT HOT-TO-
STUFF IS

AND AS DEX FELL,
HE REALIZED THAT—

HE CAN NO LONGER FEEL
WHERE HIS BULL FINS ARE—

END THE COMBATANTS
BEGIN!

glurk

I-I
CAN SEE
YOU!



A STRANGE GIDDINESS
FLUTTERS THROUGH HIM.

NEVER IN HIS
LIFE HAS HE
FELT THIS
GOOD.

YEE
HAW!





HEY--
YOU 'TALKIN'
TO ME ?

ARE YOU
TALKIN' TO
ME ?!

YOU MUST BE
TALKIN' TO ME--
HAR DEE HAR!

BLESS WHO
I AM ?

YES,
THAT'S
RIGHT.

I'M THE GUY
WHO KILLS YOU...
WHAT... ?

WHAT AM
I DOING... ?

Sniff
Sniff

MOMMY ?



FOR A HUNDRED YEARS,
THIS PROLINE SHOP
HAD BEEN POSSESSED
DOWN IN THE MUNGO
FAMILY FROM MOTHER
TO DAUGHTER.

HOWEVER, THESE WOMEN
HAVE NEVER USED IT TO
MAKE CANDY.

JOSEPHINE MUNGO HAS NOT
SET FOOT IN THIS PLACE
FOR FIFTEEN YEARS.

IT WAS FIFTEEN YEARS
AGO THAT SHE SUMMONED
LEO MELHART FROM THE
ECTO-SPHERE.

FIFTEEN YEARS SINCE
SHE FELL IN LOVE
WITH A GHOST.

SOON AFTER THAT
SHE CONCEIVED
HER ONLY CHILD.

A BOY WHO WAS
HALF-ALIVE.

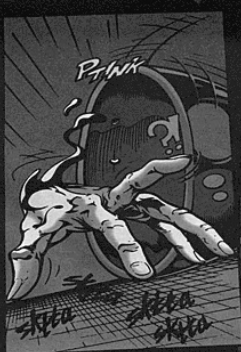
AND HALF-DEAD.

YOU MERGED
YOUR SOUL WITH A
PART OF HIS.
THAT'S WHAT BOVED
ME FROM HIM.

AND THAT'S
WHY YOU'RE SICK,
CHILD.

SHHH!
NOW JUST
RELAX.







A close-up of a character with long dark hair, looking down with a serious expression. A clenched fist is visible in the foreground, with motion lines suggesting it is about to strike.

WHAT IN
THE--?



A character wearing a dark jacket and pants lies on a wooden floor, looking up in pain. A large, powerful fist is shown striking their head from the bottom left. The impact is emphasized by motion lines and a large sound effect.

YOU
CAN'T DO
THAT!

KAPAK!









THIS IS JOSEPHINE
MUNGO.

SHE WAS ONCE ONE OF
THE WORLD'S MOST
POWERFUL PSYCHICS.

HOLY—!

ICE AUGUSTINE!
YOU HAVE SOMETHING
THAT DOES NOT BELONG
TO YOU!

THAT WAS THE GIFT THAT
DREW THE GHOST OF
LEO MELLHART TO HER.

FIFTEEN YEARS AGO, SHE
STOOD IN THIS ROOM
AND USED HER KNOWLEDGE,
HER POWER, TO GIVE
LIFE TO THEIR SON.

SHE STANDS HERE NOW,
READY TO DO NO LESS.





HER "THIRD EYE" OPENS SO
THAT SHE MAY SEE HIM
WITHOUT THE MATERIAL WORLD.



AND TWISTED THROUGH
THE DARKNESS OF THE
DEADENING SOUL SHE
SEES THE SCOTPLASH
OF HER SON,
TRAPPED WITHIN ICE.

DEX!
HELP ME!

I'VE USED WHAT
POWER I CAN TO FIND
YOUR SOUL --

--YOU
HAVE TO
PULL IT
FREE!





ECTOPLASM IS ENERGY.
HIS FATHER TOLD
HIM THAT.

PART OF DEX'S POWER
IS IN MANIPULATING
THAT ENERGY.

BUT HIS FATHER NEVER
WARNED HIM OF THE
RESPONSIBILITY
BEHIND HIS GIFT!



ECTOPLASM IS A PRECIOUS THING,
FOR TO LOSE TOO MUCH IS TO
CEASE TO EXIST.



AND NOW, WHATEVER
THE COST...

TRYING TO POSSESS ARE
QUALIFYING COST DEX A
PIECE OF THAT ENERGY.

...HE WILL HAVE
IT BACK.

AMIRIGHT.





HUSH, CHILD,
DON'T CRY.

MOM?



THE SPIRIT OF JOSEPHINE
MUNGO RISES AMONG THE
PLUMES OF BLACK SMOKE.



TWO GHOSTS EMBRACE.

DEX HOLDS HIS MOTHER—

—AS FLAMES CONSUME THE
WALLS OF THE PAST.



ONE DAY
I WILL KILL
HIM!



DON'T YOU
UNDERSTAND?
THIS IS WHAT
I'VE BEEN
WAITING FOR.
WHAT I'VE
BEEN AFRAID
OF.

HE
GET ME
FREE.



FROM THE BILLOWING
BLACK CLOUDS EMERGE
THE **ETHERITES**,
THE GUARDIANS OF
THE ECTOSPHERE'S
GATEWAYS.



NO!
YOU TOOK MY
FATHER FROM ME--
I WON'T LET YOU
TAKE HER!



DON'T BE
AFRAID OF THEM,
DEX. THEY'RE NOT
YOUR ENEMY. I SEE
THAT, NOW.



I WASN'T
THE MOTHER THAT I
WANTED TO BE...

...BUT
I LOVED YOU,
CHILD. I ALWAYS
WILL.

MOM.



I'LL
FIND YOUR
FATHER.

GOODBYE,
SON.

HE HAD FELT, THROUGHOUT
HIS LIFE, THAT HIS
MOTHER WAS MORE DEAD
THAN ALIVE.

NOW AS HE WATCHES HER
SOUL SHIMMERING BEHIND
THE CURTAIN OF HEAT
AND COOLING FLAME--

--SHE LOOKS TO HIM,
MORE ALIVE THAN DEAD.

I...
LOVE YOU,
MOM.

NEXT ISSUE:
THE STALKING OF
DEX MLINGO!
AND THE CHILLING
AFTERMATH!



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Ectokid

QUESTION OF THE MONTH
In an effort to keep our creative
team in touch with you, we asked
penciler STEVE SKROOZE:

Do you have any suggestions for
the up-and-coming artist?

Skrooze — Just do it because it's fun. Try and go to conventions and listen to what the other artists have to say. But you've got to really be tenacious. Mail your stuff in and go to the conventions, but when you meet someone who basically says your work is bad, just don't believe them; it won't be bad forever if you keep working at it. Just don't let anyone tell you you can't, if you really want to.

Thanks, Steve.

Dear ECTOKID,

One of the things that amazes me about this book is that the small preview of it I saw in the *Razorline* preview book left me so utterly unprepared for what I was going to find when the book actually came out. I mean, I read all of the promos, that this kid, Dex Mungo, is a street punk who suddenly finds that he can jump back and forth between the spirit world and the human world. And that thereafter sinister characters on both sides want him — dead or alive. I thought I was ready for what that'd mean. Color me surprised!

Y'see, I thought when you guys said spirit world that it was going to be some nebulous, limbo-like place where the ghosts of the restless dead congregate. I had no idea that you were going to actually send Mungo to Hell, implying that an occasional trip to heaven might also take place here. While graphic representation of hell in comics are common nowadays, most comic book writers shy away from detailing heaven for fear of offending the various religions; if you are indeed intending to defy the taboo, I applaud your courage. It seems kind of silly, to me, to have all that fuss, though. If each person's vision of hell is different and no one cares, why shouldn't the same be true for each person's vision of heaven?

I also wasn't prepared to see historical figures pop up as characters in the book. Okay, maybe Cyrano DeBurguerac isn't exactly a historical figure, except in fiction, but I seem to remember reading about the sinister La Voisin somewhere else. In both cases though, it was surprising to see them show up. And as someone who finds historical figures returning to modern life an intriguing concept wherever it's used, I for one am very much impressed! I can see a lot of very rich potential in that concept alone. Insofar

as this book is concerned, I hope you make full use of it!

David Peatie
4517 Birch Bark Road
Concord, CA 94521

First off, David, this is the Ectosphere—enter without any preconceptions of the afterlife! This is neither heaven nor hell. The Ectosphere is the realm through which all the souls of this world must pass, but not necessarily their final destination! As we've seen, the souls who populate the ectosphere are those who, for one reason or another, refuse or are unable to move on, clinging to life and its trappings. That makes this realm a fascinating one to explore!

On that note, you can look forward to meeting many new faces and places in the pages of ECTOKID. Some you might recognize, others you won't; regardless, but if it's exciting characters you want to meet, this is the place to watch!

Dear Razorline,

I just thought I'd drop you a line to comment on your new titles. I must say being the huge Clive Barker fan that I am I was a bit skeptical at the thought of Clive doing a line of superhero books. But Clive, being the literary genius that he is, pulled off yet another miracle. With tons of help from the creative teams, he's helped put together a line to take Marvel comics to new heights. With the cancellation of the HELLRAISER and NIGHTBREED books, I thought the choices were again dwindling for us other kids. But through the creation of the Barkerverse, quality, intelligent comic books are again available. Not to demean other super-hero books, but when I read a book, I don't want to read about total super-hero armageddon through all twenty-six pages. I mean, we all like a good fight now and again, but how about a little mental stimulation in the process? Anyway, here's to the best change in the comic book industry in years.

Let's start with HOKUM & HEX. This is a killer book with a humorous twist to top it all off. Again, great job, Frank, Anthony, and Andy have definitely pulled it off.

Next on the list is HYPERKIND. How about a super-hero team of misfits that didn't even want to be blessed with super powers in the first place. What a premise! Fred's stories, Paris's pencils, and Bob's inks are top notch! Long live the Paxis.

Next on the chopping block is SAINT SINNER. I didn't know what to think of this book but after reading the first few issues I came to the conclusion that this is one of the strangest miracles ever. I've never read a book as unique as SAINT SINNER. Elaine's storylines

and Max's art work are each definitely one of a kind. SAINT SINNER is unlike anything achieved in comics to date.

And certainly last, but not least, is ECTOKID. This is my personal favorite. I've been hooked on Dex from the very beginning. This book is totally amazing. The best comic book I've read in a lot of years. The art and story lines of Mr. Mungo's worlds are truly astounding. Larry, Steve, and Bob deserve the attention of the entire comic book community. Excellent job, guys!

In closing, thanks to *Razorline* for keeping Clive's foray in comics alive. I also hope there are plans to expand the Barkerverse in the future. I hope the success of the *Razorline* family continues for eternity. Thanks again for the quality reading material!

George Moppin
8731 Presidents Drive
Hummelstown, PA 17036

Thanks for the applause, George. Unfortunately, this is the penultimate issue of ECTOKID in its current incarnation. Next issue will be our final issue, and we're going out with a bang! And, before you panic, relax and know that we will be seeing Dex again in the pages of an amazing ECTOKID SPECIAL, due out this summer. Along with the animated feature in the works, Dex is about to ooze to new heights in the world beyond! More on this, and other exciting ecto-plans, next issue! Be here—it's your last chance!

NEXT:

He's lost the Aural. He's lost his mother. What's left for Dex to lose? His life! Join us for an amazing exploration of love and death in the fast lane, as Dex discovers:

"Love Is Like a Bullet"

CUTTING EDGE ALERT!

Next week in

HOKUM & HEX #8:

Trip vs. Bloodshed, round two! Only one will walk away! (And considering Trip is already half dead, you might not want to place bets on who!)

ELSEWHERE, ALONG THE RAZOR'S EDGE:

In HYPERKIND #9:

The fanatical fury of *Lazarex Prime!* How do you stop a man that's a living machine? Our heroes only shot is the lost fifth power—if they can locate it in the heat of battle with a mechanical fury!